



Australian Bureau of Statistics

6105.0 - Australian Labour Market Statistics, Oct 2007

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 16/10/2007

Summary

Notes

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (QUARTER)

January 2008

April 2008

July 2008

Release Date

11 January 2008

4 April 2008

4 July 2008

DATA CONTAINED IN THIS ISSUE

The statistics shown are the latest available at 27 September 2007. Data sources for the tables in this publication are listed in Appendix 1.

ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS

The spreadsheets and data cubes referenced in this publication are available on the ABS website at <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [Access to all ABS products & statistics - By Catalogue Number - 6. Labour Statistics and Prices].

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Labour Market Section on Canberra (02) 6252 7206.

For information about other Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) statistics and services, please refer to the back of this publication.

Labour Market Summary

LABOUR MARKET SUMMARY

KEY MEASURES

Measure		Series type	Period	Current figure	% change from Previous quarter(a)	Previous year(b)
Employed						
Persons	'000	Trend	Aug 2007	10 502.1	0.6	2.6
Full-time	'000	Trend	Aug 2007	7 533.9	0.6	3.1
Part-time	'000	Trend	Aug 2007	2 968.2	0.7	1.4
Part-time employment as a proportion of total employment	%	Trend	Aug 2007	28.3	0.0	(c)-0.3
Unemployed						
Persons	'000	Trend	Aug 2007	467.1	-1.4	-7.1
Looking for full-time work	'000	Trend	Aug 2007	320.7	-2.5	-9.9
Looking for part-time work	'000	Trend	Aug 2007	146.4	1.1	-0.2
Unemployment rate						
Persons	%	Trend	Aug 2007	4.3	(c)-0.1	(c)-0.4
Long-term unemployment						
Persons	'000	Trend	Aug 2007	68.7	-7.1	-23.7
As a proportion of total unemployment	%	Trend	Aug 2007	14.7	(c)-0.9	(c)-3.2
Annual labour underutilisation rates(d)						
Long-term unemployment rate	%	Original	Sep 2006	0.8	na	(c)-0.1
Unemployment rate	%	Original	Sep 2006	4.8	na	(c)-0.4
Underemployment rate	%	Original	Sep 2006	5.0	na	(c)-0.3
Labour force underutilisation rate	%	Original	Sep 2006	9.8	na	(c)-0.7
Extended labour force underutilisation rate	%	Original	Sep 2006	10.6	na	(c)-0.9
Children living without an employed parent(e)	%	Original	Jun 2007	13.7	na	(c)-0.7
Labour force participation rate						
Persons aged 15-64 years	%	Original	Aug 2007	75.6	(c)-0.6	(c)0.1
Total	%	Trend	Aug 2007	65.0	(c)0.1	(c)0.3
Actual hours worked						
Aggregate weekly hours	mill. hours	Original	Aug 2007	360.1	-0.6	2.3
Average weekly hours - Persons	hours	Original	Aug 2007	34.5	-0.4	-0.3
Average weekly hours - Full-time	hours	Original	Aug 2007	41.5	-0.5	-0.6
Average weekly hours - Part-time	hours	Original	Aug 2007	16.9	0.8	0.2
Part-time workers						
Proportion who preferred to work more hours	%	Original	Aug 2007	22.7	(c)-1.2	(c)-1.7
Wage price index						
Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses	index no.	Original	Jun qtr 2007	113.9	0.8	4.0
Average weekly earnings						

Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	\$	Trend	May 2007	1 088.4	1.3	4.4
All employees total earnings	\$	Trend	May 2007	867.1	1.1	4.5
Compensation of employees						
Household income account	\$m	Trend	Jun qtr 2007	127 472.0	2.2	8.5
Average earnings (National Accounts basis nominal) per week	\$	Trend	Jun qtr 2007	1 066.0	1.5	5.2
Industrial disputes						
Working days lost	'000	Original	Jun qtr 2007	7.1	2.9	-74.7
Working days lost per 1,000 employees	number	Original	Jun qtr 2007	0.8	1.7	-75.6
Job vacancies						
Australia	'000	Trend	Aug 2007	171.4	2.4	9.2

na not available

(a) Same period previous quarter (monthly data is presented for the middle month of each quarter).

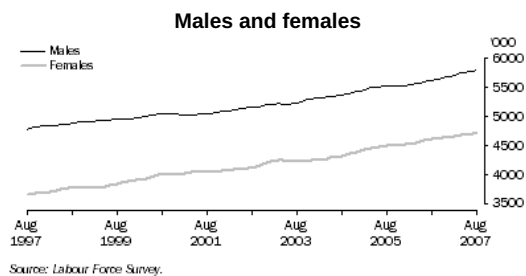
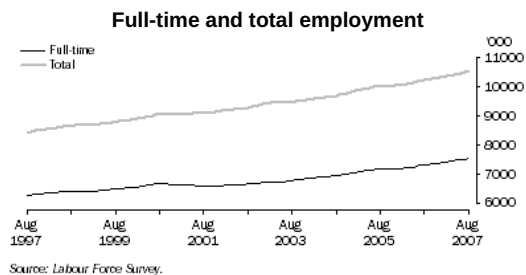
(b) Same period previous year.

(c) Change is in percentage points.

(d) See table 4.1 or the Glossary for further explanation of labour underutilisation rates.

(e) As a proportion of all children aged under 15 years. See the Explanatory Notes for information on family data.

EMPLOYMENT: TREND SERIES

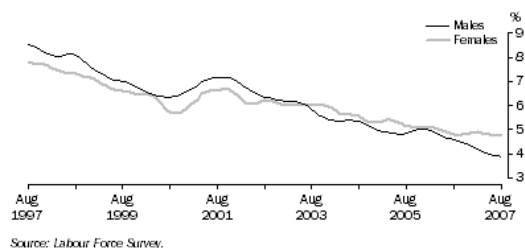


PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT: TREND SERIES

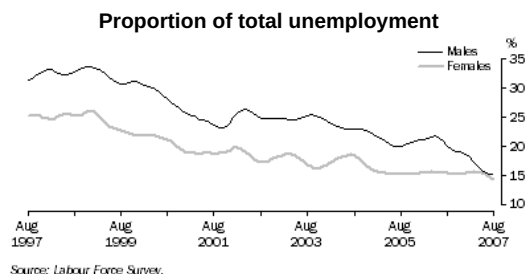


UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: TREND SERIES

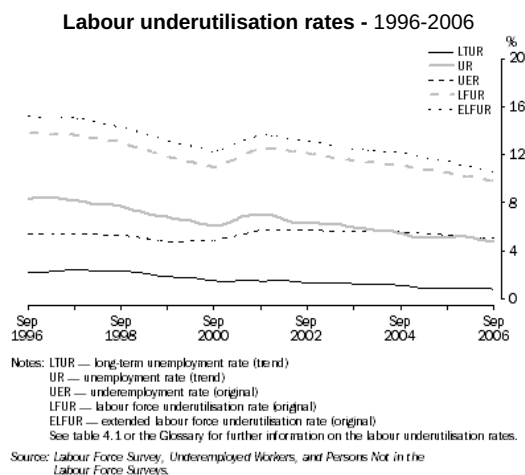
Males and females



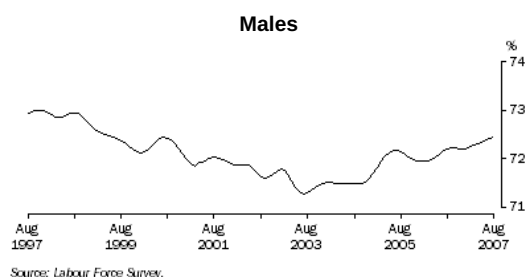
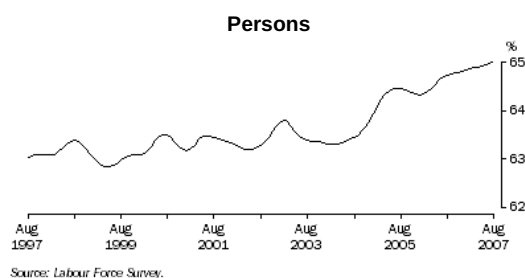
LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENT: TREND SERIES



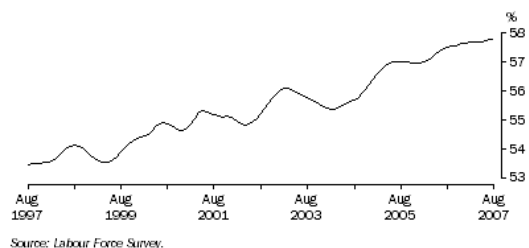
UNDERUTILISED LABOUR



PARTICIPATION RATE: TREND SERIES

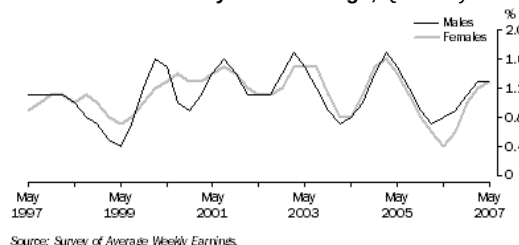


Females

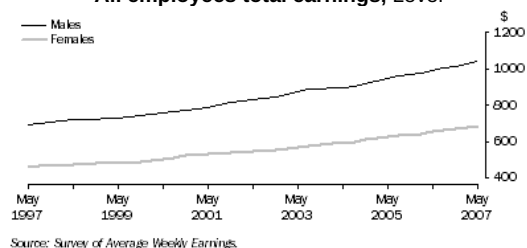


AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: TREND SERIES

Full-time adult ordinary time earnings, Quarterly change

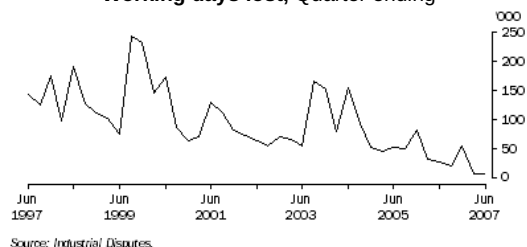


All employees total earnings, Level



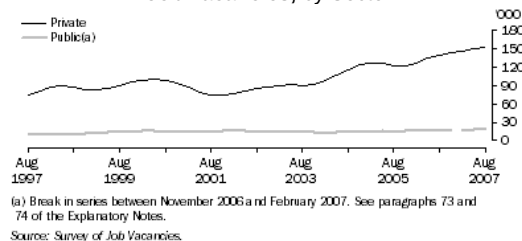
INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: ORIGINAL SERIES

Working days lost, Quarter ending



JOB VACANCIES: TREND SERIES

Job vacancies, by Sector



Labour statistics news

Data cubes containing Table 1. Measures of labour underutilisation and Table 2. Employment type can be found in the Details tab.

LABOUR STATISTICS NEWS

LABOUR THEME PAGE

The ABS Labour Theme Page, available on the ABS web site, provides a guide to the range of ABS statistics on the labour market, as well as links to the latest data released. To find the Theme Page, go to <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [Themes - People - Labour].

UPDATE OF AUSTRALIAN LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS REVIEW

A review of the current content of this publication **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0) was conducted earlier this year, and involved seeking feedback from users on the usage of articles and tables. The review was advertised in the July 2007 issue of 6105.0.

As a result of feedback received from users, the ABS is evaluating the future content of 6105.0 with the aim of developing a more relevant set of tables to complement the current datacubes and spreadsheets available on the ABS website. The publication will continue as a point of reference for labour market statistics drawing together the range of key indicators.

If you would like to provide input into future table content of 6105.0, please contact Catherine Toet on Canberra (02) 6252 7636 or email <c.toet@abs.gov.au>.

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS ON LABOUR TOPICS

The Monthly Population Survey comprises the Labour Force Survey and a range of supplementary surveys, which provide detailed information on a range of topics. Results from the Labour Force Experience survey have recently been released in: **Labour Force Experience, Australia** (cat. no. 6206.0). See the Recent Releases section in this issue for more details.

FINAL ISSUE

The quarterly Survey of Employment and Earnings - Public Sector is being replaced with an annual survey, commencing with the 2007-08 reference year. As a result, the June quarter 2007 issue was the final quarterly issue of **Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia** (cat. no. 6248.0.55.001). Data from the 2007-08 survey are expected to be released in January 2009.

ABS EMAIL NOTIFICATION SERVICE

By subscribing to this free service, you will be kept informed via email of the latest releases of ABS products. To subscribe, follow the link from the ABS home page <<https://www.abs.gov.au>>, provide your email address, and select your topics of interest.

Recent and upcoming statistical releases

Release date/title of publication	Reference period	Catalogue number
September 2007		
Australian Economic Indicators	October 2007	1350.0
Industrial Disputes, Australia	June quarter 2007	6321.0.55.001
Job Vacancies, Australia	August 2007	6354.0
Labour Force, Australia	August 2007	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets	August 2007	6202.0.55.001
Labour Force, Australia - Detailed Delivery, Monthly	August 2007	6291.0.55.001
Labour Force, Australia - Detailed Delivery, Quarterly	August 2007	6291.0.55.003
Survey of Income and Housing - Confidentialised Unit Record Files	2002-03 (Reissue)	6541.0.30.001
Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia(a)	June quarter 2007	6248.0.55.001
October 2007		
Australian Economic Indicators	November 2007	1350.0
Australian Labour Market Statistics	October 2007	6105.0
Information Paper: Measuring Voluntary & Unpaid Work in ABS Household Collections	2007	1200.0.55.003
Information Paper: Persons in Their Own Business, Experimental Estimates for Small Areas	1996-97 to 2003-04	6225.0
Labour Force, Australia	September 2007	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets	September 2007	6202.0.55.001
Labour Force, Australia - Detailed Delivery, Monthly	September 2007	6291.0.55.001
November 2007		
Australian Economic Indicators	December 2007	1350.0
Average Weekly Earnings, Australia	August 2007	6302.0
Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits	June 2006 to June 2007	8165.0
Household Wealth and Wealth Distribution, Australia	2005-06	6554.0
Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design	November 2007	6269.0
Labour Force, Australia	October 2007	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets	October 2007	6202.0.55.001
Labour Force, Australia - Detailed Delivery, Monthly	October 2007	6291.0.55.001
Labour Price Index, Australia	September 2007	6345.0
December 2007		
Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia	July 2006 to June 2007	6239.0
Census of Population and Housing: Working Population Profile Datapack	2006	2069.0.30.006
Census of Population and Housing: Working Population Profile	2006	2006.0
Characteristics of Small Business, Australia	2005	8127.0
Education and Work, Australia	May 2007	6227.0
Industrial Disputes, Australia	September quarter 2007	6321.0.55.001
Job Search Experience, Australia	July 2007	6222.0
Labour Force, Australia	November 2007	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets	November 2007	6202.0.55.001
Labour Force, Australia - Detailed Delivery, Monthly	November 2007	6291.0.55.001
Labour Force, Australia - Detailed Delivery, Quarterly	November 2007	6291.0.55.003
Unpaid Work Variables	2006	1200.0.55.002
Work in Selected Culture and Leisure Activities, Australia	April 2007	6281.0

January 2008

Australian Economic Indicators
Australian Economic Indicators
Australian Labour Market Statistics
Job Vacancies, Australia
Labour Force, Australia
Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets
Labour Force, Australia - Detailed Delivery, Monthly
Year Book Australia
Australia at a Glance
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia
Selected Characteristics of Australian Business

January 2008	1350.0
February 2008	1350.0
January 2008	6105.0
November 2007	6354.0
December 2007	6202.0
December 2007	6202.0.55.001
December 2007	6291.0.55.001
2008	1301.0
2008	1309.0
July 2006 to June 2007	6238.0
2005-06	8167.0

(a) The Survey of Employment and Earnings ceased as a quarterly survey after the June quarter 2007. It will be replaced with an annual survey commencing with the 2007/08 reference year.

About this Release

Replaces: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6203.0)

This publication is the flagship release for all ABS labour statistics. It draws together data from a range of sources, mostly ABS household and business surveys, to provide an overall picture of the labour market. The key purpose of this publication is to raise awareness of the data available, so that users will be able to use it more effectively.

It contains tables for core data items, presenting the most recent data available at a particular date (rather than relating to a particular reference period). It is also able to be used to announce the release of supplementary surveys and infrequent surveys. Note that, in addition to a brief article in this publication, these would also have separate releases, which would not be delayed by the release in this publication.

The publication is also used to release annual data on Indigenous labour force status, and annual supplementary measures of labour underutilisation. It includes a range of feature articles, both analytical and technical, which will assist users in understanding and interpreting the data and will also promote the range of data available from the ABS labour statistics program. It will be used to announce any changes to labour series or releases.

The publication contains brief explanatory notes, outlining each data source, but referring to the relevant releases, and to Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods 6102.0.55.001, for more detail.

Census and the Labour Force Survey (Feature Article)

CENSUS AND THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

COMPARISON OF LABOUR FORCE STATUS

INTRODUCTION

The Census and Labour Force Survey (LFS) collect information about the labour market activity of people aged 15 years and over. However, differences in scope and methodology mean that estimates produced from these collections may not be the same.

The Census of Population and Housing is the largest statistical collection undertaken by the ABS. It aims to accurately measure the number of people in Australia on Census Night, their key characteristics, and the dwellings in which they live. On 8 August 2006, over 30,000 collectors delivered and collected Census forms from approximately 8.5 million households.

Due to varying complexity and processing requirements, 2006 Census data was released in stages. The first release was in June 2007 and consisted of demographic data such as age, sex, country of birth, marital status, and Indigenous status, among others. The second release, in September 2007, consisted of customised tables containing many of the more complex data items, including the following labour market items:

- Labour Force Status
- Hours Worked
- Employment Type
- Industry of Employment
- Occupation
- Number of Employees
- Government/Non-government Employer Indicator
- Community Development Employment Projects Participation
- Place of Work
- Method of Travel to Work.

An extensive range of Census data is available free online at <www.abs.gov.au/Census>. Further data from the second release will be available online from 25 October, 2007.

Many of the labour market variables collected in the Census attempt to measure the same concepts as those collected on a regular basis in ABS household surveys, such as the monthly LFS. Labour force status, hours worked, and employment type, for example, are collected monthly in the LFS, while industry and occupation data are collected quarterly (in February, May, August, and November).

As the Census and LFS collect similar labour force data for a similar reference period (i.e. August 2006), it could be expected that the data from the Census would align very closely with that from the August LFS. However, there are a number of factors which may lead to differences between the two sources.

This paper outlines some of those factors and compares Census and LFS data.

The Census and the LFS

The Census aims to collect information about every person in Australia on Census Night. This makes the Census a good source of information for very small population groups and small areas.

The LFS is a sample survey which has been conducted since 1960. The survey was run on a quarterly basis up to February 1978 and has been conducted monthly since then. The main purpose of the monthly LFS is to provide official estimates of the labour market activity of the usually resident civilian population of Australia aged 15 years and over. The current sample size for the LFS is approximately 60,000 people, covering around 1 in 224 (0.45%) of the population 15 years and over. A sample of this size provides reliable estimates of the key labour force statistics for the whole of Australia as well as each state and territory.

COMPARING CENSUS AND LFS

This section explains some of the main methodological and statistical differences between the Census and the LFS. While it is not possible to quantify the impact of each issue individually, it is likely that they account for much of the difference between the Census and LFS data.

Scope

The scope of any collection, be it the Census or a household sample survey, is defined as the population to which the data refer. While the scope of the Census is very similar to that of the LFS, there are slight differences which can have an impact on the data.

The LFS scope is limited to civilians. Members of the permanent defence forces are therefore excluded from the survey. The Census, on the other hand, includes members of the defence forces. This has the effect of increasing the number and proportion of employed people in the Census relative to the LFS.

The Census includes only those people who are in Australia on Census Night, while the LFS includes usual residents who are out of the country for less than 6 weeks. The ABS uses overseas arrivals and departures data to estimate the number of people overseas on Census Night in calculating the estimated resident population of Australia (ERP), but no adjustment is made to the Census data based on these estimates.

Undercount

While the Census aims to capture information about every person in Australia on Census Night, it is inevitable that in such a large operation some people will be missed. To account for this, the ABS runs a sample survey a few weeks after the Census, known as the Post Enumeration Survey (PES), to estimate the number and characteristics of people who were missed.

On the basis of the 2006 PES, the Census net undercount rate was estimated at around 2.7%. That is, the Census count was estimated to be around 550,000 persons fewer than the actual number of usual residents who were in Australia on Census Night. Results from the PES are used in calculating ERP, but are not used to adjust Census data.

By contrast, as a sample survey, data from the LFS is weighted to independent population benchmarks (**end note 1**) based on the ERP (which has been adjusted for Census underenumeration). This means that LFS estimates add up to an independently estimated distribution of the usually resident civilian population aged 15 years and over regardless of any sample lost due to non-responding households.

Non-response

For various reasons, a proportion of households that are occupied on Census Night either cannot or do not return a Census form. The non-response rate in the 2006 Census was 4.2%. To account for this, the number of persons in non-responding households is imputed, along with some demographic characteristics. Labour force characteristics, however, are not imputed. Imputed records are included in the 'not stated' category for labour force status, and in the 'not applicable' category for the remaining labour force variables.

The LFS, on the other hand, does not include non-responses, as only fully responding records (**end note 2**) contribute to the estimates. To account for non-responding households, data from the fully responding records are weighted to independent population benchmarks based on the (ERP). The population benchmarks currently used for weighting LFS data are based on data from the 2001 Census. (**end note 3**)

Methodology

The Census uses a self-enumeration methodology where the householders are required to complete the Census form themselves. The LFS, by contrast, is conducted by trained ABS interviewers, either face-to-face or via telephone. Any responsible adult can provide responses on behalf of all members of the household.

Both methodologies can lead to (non-sampling) error if the respondent doesn't understand a particular question. However, this is much less likely to occur in the LFS as interviewers are able to clarify the meaning of questions which respondents have difficulty interpreting. Interviewers can also probe for additional information if a respondent gives a vague or ambiguous answer. An LFS interviewer may, for example, ask for additional information about a respondent's occupation or industry if their initial answer is not sufficiently detailed. This, of course, is not possible in the Census.

Census data are also affected when respondents don't answer all the questions applicable to them. This may occur when a respondent chooses not to answer a particular question, or when a respondent fails to follow the correct sequencing (i.e. order of questions). Sequencing errors are not possible in the LFS as interviewers record responses via notebook computers which proceed automatically to the next applicable question.

Questions

To minimise errors arising due to questions being misunderstood, the Census form is designed to ensure that questions are simple and easy to understand. Limits are placed on the number of questions asked as well as the complexity of the questions and the question sequencing. However, limiting the number and complexity of questions can result in some relevant information not being collected.

For example, in the 2006 Census, labour force status is derived from responses to four questions. In the LFS, labour force status is derived from up to 30 questions. Many of the additional questions in the LFS concern the circumstances where a person can be defined as 'employed' even though they were not at work during the reference week. The omission of these additional questions from the Census may result in employed people being categorised as either unemployed or not in the labour force. It is also possible that people who are unemployed or not in the labour force will be categorised as employed due to the shorter question module used in the Census.

Reference period

All of the labour force questions in the 2006 Census relate to the week prior to Census Night (i.e. July 31- August 6). In contrast, LFS interviews are conducted over a two week period, with the survey reference period being the week prior to the week in which the survey is conducted. In August 2006, approximately 65% of the LFS sample was surveyed during the week of Census Night - meaning the reference period for the Census and the LFS was the same. The remaining 35% of the LFS sample was surveyed in the week following Census Night - meaning that the reference week was different to that of the Census.

Given the dynamic nature of the labour market, it is likely that some people's circumstances changed from the Census reference week, to the second LFS reference week. The number of hours people work, for example, can fluctuate from week to week. And in any given week many people around the country will start a new job, or a new business, or retire from the labour force.

Sampling error

Estimates derived from the LFS are based on information obtained from a sample of dwellings. Because the entire population is not sampled, the estimates are subject to sampling error. LFS estimates are therefore accompanied by information about the quality of the estimates, including relative standard errors ([end note 4](#)) (RSEs) and confidence intervals. ([end note 5](#)) While the sample is designed to ensure that the sampling error is as low as possible at the national and state/territory level, it can be high for small area data or for detailed population breakdowns. The Census, by contrast, is not subject to sampling error because the aim is to collect information from all people in Australia.

COMPARING THE DATA

There are advantages and disadvantages to using either Census or LFS data which should be considered when determining which source is appropriate for a particular purpose. The main advantage of the LFS is that data are available on a monthly basis (or quarterly for some items). Most LFS data are available in original, seasonally adjusted, and trend series. Seasonal adjustment is able to remove the effect of events which occur at the same time every year (e.g. Christmas), while the trend series reduces the impact of the irregular component of the seasonally adjusted series. Special care should be taken in interpreting data from the most recent months and quarters as some of the original and all of the trend estimates are subject to revision.

The main advantage of the Census is that data can be used to determine the labour force characteristics of small population groups and small geographic areas. The Census also allows analysis of industry and occupation data at a much greater level of detail than the LFS.

The following section compares Census data on five key labour market variables with original data from the August 2006 LFS. The variables compared are labour force status, hours worked, employment type, industry of employment and occupation. The differences between Census and LFS data for each variable will be discussed and, where appropriate, related back to the methodological and statistical differences outlined above.

Labour Force Status

As shown in the table below, both the Census and LFS indicate that in August 2006 around three in five people aged 15 years and over were employed, around 3% were unemployed, and about a third were not in the labour force.

However, the table also shows that there were considerable differences between the Census and LFS data. For example:

- the Census count of usual residents aged 15 years and over (15,918,100) was 664,500 less than the LFS estimate (16,582,600)
- the LFS estimate of employed people, particularly full-time employed, was much higher than the Census count
- the LFS estimate of people not in the labour force was appreciably higher than the Census count
- the Census count of unemployed people looking for part-time work was much higher than the LFS estimate.

There are a number of explanations for these differences. As outlined above, the Census undercount, estimated at around 2.7%, leads to an underestimate of the number of people aged 15 years and over. In contrast, the LFS totals are weighted to reflect independent population benchmarks and are therefore not affected by sample loss. Similarly, there are differences in the scope of the respective collections that may account for different totals.

The numbers in each of the Census categories are affected by the fact that the labour force status of around 6.5% (1,039,000) people counted in the Census was 'not stated'. Analysis shows that people aged 65 years and over account for around 26% of those whose labour force status was 'not stated', but only 16% of all people counted in the Census. As the vast majority of people aged 65 and over are not in the labour force, this suggests that the proportion of people not in the labour force may be underestimated in the Census.

Of those people counted in the Census whose labour force status was determined, 61.2% were categorised as employed, almost identical to the estimated proportion of people employed from the LFS (61.3%). Likewise, the proportion of people categorised as unemployed and not in the labour force were also quite similar. This may suggest that, despite the over-representation of people aged 65 and over, the characteristics of those whose labour force status was 'not stated' were not substantially different to those whose labour force status was stated.

Some of the differences between the two sources were also due to the categories used. For example, there were around 600,000 people categorised in the Census as 'employed, away from work'. This is not a category that features in the LFS as people in this situation are classified as either employed full-time or part-time based on their usual hours worked.

1. Labour Force Status

	2006 Census		LFS, August 2006	
	'000	%	'000	%
Labour force	9 608.0	64.6	10 647.6	64.2
Employed total	9 104.2	61.2	10 168.0	61.3
Employed, worked full-time	5 827.4	39.2	7 235.4	43.6
Employed, worked part-time	2 685.2	18.0	2 932.5	17.7
Employed, away from work	591.6	4.0	(a) .	(a) .
Unemployed total	503.8	3.4	479.6	2.9
Unemployed, looking for full-time work	310.6	2.1	335.7	2.0
Unemployed, looking for part-time work	193.2	1.3	143.9	0.9
Not in the labour force	5 271.1	35.4	5 935.0	35.8
Total	(b)(c)14 879.1	100.0	(d)16 582.6	100.0

. . not applicable

(a) In the LFS, people employed, but away from work are categorised as either employed full-time or part-time based on usual hours worked.

(b) Population aged 15 years and over.

(c) The number of people whose labour force status was 'not stated' in the Census (1,039,000) has been removed from the Census total of 15,918,100 to aid comparison.

(d) Civilian population aged 15 years and over.

The remaining Census labour market variables to be discussed are only applicable to the 9,104,200 people whose Census labour force status was 'employed'. It is likely that many of the people whose Census labour force status was 'not stated' were actually employed. Therefore, the number of people employed is likely to have been underestimated in the Census. For this reason, comparisons between LFS and Census data for the remaining variables will focus on the proportions of total employed, rather than the total numbers of people.

Hours Worked

The hours worked data in the Census refers to hours worked in the reference week and are therefore compared with the LFS data item 'hours actually worked', rather than 'usual hours worked'.

As the following table shows, a slightly higher proportion of employed people reported working between 1 and 34 hours in the LFS (34%) compared with the Census (30%). A higher proportion of those in the Census reported working 35-39 or 40 hours (36%) compared with the LFS (31%), while the proportion working more than 40 hours was roughly similar for both the Census and LFS.

A higher proportion of employed people in the LFS worked 0 hours (5.2%) compared with the Census (3.8%). It may be that some people who were employed but worked 0 hours in the reference week were incorrectly classified in the Census as either unemployed or not in the labour force.

A higher proportion of employed people in the Census indicated that they worked 35-39 or 40 hours, compared with the LFS. This may be due to a tendency for people in the Census (self-enumeration) to 'round' hours worked to their perception of full-time hours (e.g. 38, or 40

hours), while more precise estimates may be provided when responding to LFS interviewers.

Another possibility is that the 2.8% (253,600) of those categorised as 'employed' whose hours were 'not stated' in the Census were more likely to work less than 35 hours, thereby inflating the proportion of people in the 35-39 and 40 hours categories. However, despite the minor differences in the 35-39 and 40 hours categories, the distribution of hours worked for those stated in the Census closely aligns with the distribution in the LFS. It is therefore likely that the characteristics of those whose hours worked was 'not stated' were not substantially different to those whose hours worked was stated.

2. Hours Worked

	2006 Census '000	%	LFS, August 2006 '000	%
0 hours	338.0	3.8	525.9	5.2
1-15	985.8	11.1	1 193.1	11.7
16-29	1 123.9	12.7	1 403.7	13.8
30-34	575.5	6.5	813.9	8.0
35-39	1 533.6	17.3	1 606.2	15.8
40 hours	1 669.9	18.9	1 521.4	15.0
41-44	335.5	3.8	468.0	4.6
45-49	698.5	7.9	845.9	8.3
50-59	895.6	10.1	999.6	9.8
60+	694.3	7.8	790.4	7.8
Total	(a)8 850.6	100.0	10 168.0	100.0

(a) The number of people whose hours worked was 'not stated' in the Census (253,600) has been removed from the Census total of 9,104,200 to aid comparison.

Employment Type

As shown in the table below, both the Census and LFS data indicate that around four in five employed people can be categorised as employees not owning their own business. The rest of the employed population is made up of owner managers of incorporated and unincorporated enterprises, and a small number of contributing family workers.

The proportion of employed people categorised as employees not owning their own business and owner managers of incorporated enterprises were similar for the Census and LFS. The proportion of employed people who were owner managers of unincorporated enterprises in the LFS was considerably larger than the Census count (12.5% and 9.7% respectively). There was also a considerable difference in the proportion of people categorised as contributing family workers. The Census indicates that 1.7% of all employed people were contributing family workers, compared with just 0.3% in the LFS. These differences may be due to a number of factors. It may be, for example, that the LFS questions, and the presence of the interviewer, allow people to be categorised more accurately than in the Census.

It should also be noted that the LFS data quoted in this article are based on an estimation method, known as composite estimation, which was introduced in June 2007. At this time, all LFS estimates back to April 2001 were revised on the basis of the new estimation method. In addition, data from the Survey of Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership (EEBTUM) are also used in calculating employment type estimates, and these have not been revised on the basis of composite estimation. This has a minor effect on the LFS data and may account for some of the difference between Census and LFS estimates.

The Census data is also affected by the fact that the employment type of around 1% (86,700) of those who were categorised as 'employed' was 'not stated'. However, apart from the differences with respect to owner managers of unincorporated enterprises and contributing family workers, the distribution of employment type for those who were stated in the Census is largely similar to the distribution in the LFS. This suggests it is likely that the characteristics of those whose employment type was 'not stated' were not substantially different to those whose employment type was stated.

3. Employment type

	2006 Census '000	%	LFS, August 2006 '000	%
Total Employees	7 988.9	88.6	8 868.3	87.2
Employee not owning business	7 369.6	81.7	8 177.8	80.4
Owner managers of incorporated enterprises	619.4	6.9	690.4	6.8
Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises	873.4	9.7	1 275.2	12.5
Contributing family workers	155.1	1.7	28.5	0.3
Total	(a)9 017.5	100.0	(b)10 172.0	100.0

(a) The number of people whose employment type was 'not stated' in the Census (86,700) has been removed from the Census total of 9,104,200 to aid comparison.

(b) Data on Employment Type from the Labour Force Survey was calculated prior to the introduction of composite estimation. Therefore the total will not equal the other LFS totals presented in this article.

Industry of Employment

As shown in the following table, across both the Census and the LFS, the industries with the highest proportion of employed people were Retail trade, followed by Health care and social assistance, and Manufacturing.

The industry of employment of 2.6% (236,500) of employed people could not be determined in the Census as it was either 'not stated' or 'inadequately described'. However, of those whose industry was determined in the Census, the proportion of people in each of the industry divisions was quite similar to the LFS.

4. Industry

Industry(a)	2006 Census		LFS, August 2006	
	'000	%	'000	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	280.9	3.2	352.6	3.5
Mining	106.9	1.2	133.2	1.3
Manufacturing	952.0	10.7	1 011.3	9.9
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	89.5	1.0	105.8	1.0
Construction	709.8	8.0	903.8	8.9
Wholesale trade	396.4	4.5	409.4	4.0
Retail trade	1 033.2	11.7	1 161.2	11.4
Accommodation and food services	575.1	6.5	672.4	6.6
Transport, postal and warehousing	427.8	4.8	505.3	5.0
Information media and telecommunications	176.8	2.0	244.8	2.4
Financial and insurance services	348.6	3.9	378.7	3.7
Rental, hiring and real estate services	153.9	1.7	198.4	2.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	602.3	6.8	748.5	7.4
Administrative and support services	286.3	3.2	355.7	3.5
Public administration and safety	608.6	6.9	625.2	6.1
Education and training	697.8	7.9	731.2	7.2
Health care and social assistance	956.1	10.8	1 050.0	10.3
Arts and recreation services	127.4	1.4	170.1	1.7
Other services	338.2	3.8	410.3	4.0
Total	(b)8 867.7	100.0	10 168.0	100.0

(a) Classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (cat. no. 1292.0).

(b) The number of people whose industry of employment was either 'not stated' (123,000) or 'inadequately described' (113,400) in the Census has been removed from the Census total of 9,104,200 to aid comparison.

Occupation of Employment

As the table below shows, the most common occupations as measured by both the Census and the LFS were Professionals, followed by Clerical and administrative workers, and Technicians and trades workers.

The occupation of 1.8% (165,600) of employed people could not be determined in the Census as it was either 'not stated' or 'inadequately described'. However, of those whose occupation was determined in the Census, the proportion of people in each of the major occupation groups was quite similar to the LFS.

5. Occupation

Occupation(a)	Census 2006		LFS, August 2006	
	'000	%	'000	%
Managers	1 202.3	13.5	1 285.9	12.6
Professionals	1 806.0	20.2	2 038.7	20.1
Technicians and trades workers	1 309.3	14.6	1 551.4	15.3
Community and personal service workers	801.9	9.0	862.2	8.5
Clerical and administrative workers	1 365.8	15.3	1 603.4	15.8
Sales workers	896.2	10.0	1 003.7	9.9
Machinery operators and drivers	604.6	6.8	667.5	6.6
Labourers	952.5	10.7	1 155.2	11.4
Total	(b)8 938.6	100.0	10 168.0	100.0

(a) Classified according to ANZSCO - Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, 2006 (cat. no. 1220.0).

(b) The number of people whose occupation was either 'not stated' (74,900) or 'inadequately described' (90,700) in the Census has been removed from the Census total of 9,104,200 to aid comparison.

The LFS provides the official estimates of employment, unemployment, unemployment rate and labour force participation rate which are published (in original, seasonally adjusted and trend terms) each month in **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0). Further data from the LFS is also published in the following publications which are available free online:

- **Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets** (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001)
- **Labour Force, Australia, Detailed -- Electronic Delivery** (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
- **Labour Force, Australia: Labour Force Status and other Characteristics of Families -- Electronic delivery** (cat. no. 6224.0.55.001)
- **Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly** (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

END NOTES

1. Labour Force Survey estimates of persons employed, unemployed and not in the labour force are calculated in such a way as to add up to an independently estimated distribution of the usually resident civilian population aged 15 years and over. The independent population estimates (benchmarks) are the latest available estimates at the time the Labour Force Survey is conducted, but they usually differ from the official population estimates subsequently published in **Australian Demographic Statistics** (cat. no. 3101.0) because they are derived from incomplete information about population changes.[Back](#)

2. The Labour Force Survey receives a high level of co-operation from individuals in selected dwellings, with an average response rate of around 95% over the year to August 2006.[Back](#)

3. The population benchmarks used in determining LFS estimates will be rebased in February 2009 on the basis of data from the 2006 Census. The revised population benchmarks will then be applied to historical LFS data prior to February 2009. It is expected that this will change some of the LFS estimates for this period.[Back](#)

4. The relative standard error is the standard error expressed as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers, and is useful when comparing the variability of population estimates of different sizes.[Back](#)

5. A confidence interval is a range, centred on the estimate, with a prescribed level of probability that it includes the true population value.[Back](#)

Spotlight – Available labour of the unemployed

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SPOTLIGHT – AVAILABLE LABOUR OF THE UNEMPLOYED

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME WORK AND PREFERRED NUMBER OF HOURS

INTRODUCTION

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the Job Search Experience (JSE) Survey both collect information about the available labour of unemployed people.(**end note 1**) The measures produced from these collections are:

- Unemployed: whether looking for full-time or part-time work; and
- Unemployed: preferred number of hours would like to work each week.

This article explores the differences between these two measures. It looks at the questions, collection methods and the definitions in each survey. For the purposes of this article the estimates are from the JSE Survey, which includes items collected in the LFS component.(**end note 2**)

COMPARING THE DATA

In July 2006, there were an estimated 462,000 unemployed people of which 333,400 people were looking for full-time work and 128,600 people were looking for part-time work. The following table cross-classifies these people with preferred number of hours (1-34 hours which are considered part-time hours of work and 35 hours or more a week which are considered full-time hours of work).

1. Unemployed, Looking for full-time/part-time work by preferred number of hours - July 2006.

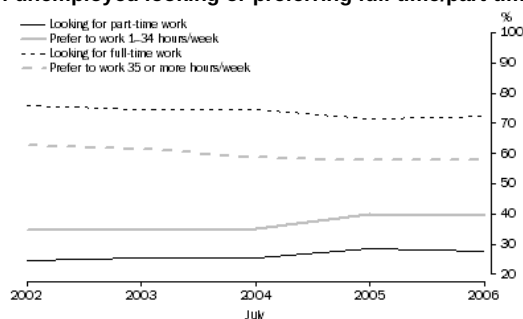
Preferred number of hours	Unemployed		Total '000
	Looking for full-time work '000	Looking for part-time work '000	
1-34 hours	70.3	112.7	183.0
35 hours or more	253.7	12.8	266.4
Don't know	9.4	3.2	12.6
Total	333.4	128.6	462.0

Job Search Experience Survey, July 2006.

For the majority of people (79%) the number of hours they preferred to work was consistent with the type of work (i.e. full-time or part-time) they were looking for. However, for around 18% of people this is not the case. This inconsistency is greatest for people who say they are looking for full-time work yet prefer to work 1-34 hours per week (21% of all unemployed persons looking for full-time work). For people looking for part-time work, 10% would actually prefer to work 35 hours or more.

Another way to compare the data is to look at the proportion of unemployed people who were looking for part-time work with the proportion of unemployed people who would prefer to work 1-34 hours a week (see following graph). The proportion who would prefer to work 1-34 hours a week is, on average, 10 percentage points higher than the proportion looking for part-time work. In contrast, the proportion of unemployed people who would prefer to work 35 hours or more a week is, on average, 14 percentage points lower than the proportion looking for full-time work.

2. Proportion of unemployed looking or preferring full-time/part-time work or hours



Source: Job Search Experience Survey.

Further analysis of the preferred hours reported in JSE shows that close to two-thirds (63%) of the unemployed people who looked for part-time work but preferred to work 35 hours or more per week, preferred to work 35-39 hours per week. These hours are very close to the ABS cut-off for full-time and part-time 'work' (employment). For those unemployed people who looked for full-time work but preferred to work 1-34 hours per week, almost a quarter (23%) preferred to work 30-34 hours per week (also close to the ABS cut-off for full-time and part-time 'work'), while three-fifths (60%) preferred to work 16-29 hours.

3. Unemployed, Looking for full-time/part-time work by detailed preferred number of hours - July 2006.

Preferred number of hours	Unemployed		Total '000
	Looking for full-time work '000	Looking for part-time work '000	
1-15	11.9	59.4	71.3
16-29	42.5	46.6	89.0
30-34	15.9	6.7	22.6
35-39	139.3	8.1	147.4
40	100.3	*4.7	105.1
41 hours or more	14.0	-	14.0
Did not know	9.4	*3.2	12.6
Total	333.4	128.6	462.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

Job Search Experience Survey, July 2006.

METHODOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS

The questions used, the concepts behind the questions, and how the questions are collected contribute to the differences observed between the two measures. In the LFS people are first asked whether they had looked for full-time work in the past four weeks. If they indicated they did look for full-time work they are not asked if they were looking for part-time work. Hence an unemployed person who is looking for full-time and part-time work is only classified as looking for full-time work. In contrast, in the JSE survey all unemployed people are asked for their preferred number of hours. This means that someone who is classified in the LFS as looking for full-time work can report in the JSE component that they have a preference for working part-time hours. **(end note 3)**

A person's understanding or interpretation of what full-time and part-time work also has a bearing on the differences between the two measures. The ABS defines a person as employed full-time or part-time based on the hours the person usually (and actually) worked in the reference week. **(end note 4)** The cut-off value to determine this is 35 hours or more (in all jobs) for full-time employment, and less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) for part-time employment. Whether a person answers yes or no in the LFS to the looking for full-time (and part-time) work questions is based on their interpretation (i.e. self perception) of what full-time (and part-time) work is. The question does not refer to the 35 hour cut-off used by the ABS to determine full-time or part-time status and the person answering may have a different view of what constitutes full-time. **(end note 5)** The JSE survey asks the exact number of hours an unemployed person prefers to work. This allows these hours to be classified into full-time and part-time based on the 35 hour cut-off.

The key difference between these two measures is that the estimate of whether a person is looking for full-time or part-time work is based on what they actually did in the past four weeks to gain employment, and whether in their opinion the work they were looking for was full-time or part-time. On the other hand, the number of hours a person would prefer to work is collected from a direct response from a specific question relating to how many hours they would like to work each week.

It may be that a person's preferred number of hours does not match what they did in the last four weeks or the number of hours they can actually work. For example, there may be factors such as caring for children or health concerns that influence the hours they looked for work.

The JSE survey does not collect information on whether a person can actually work the number of hours they say they would like to work. In contrast, a person may need to work full-time for financial reasons, whereas their preference may be 15 hours a week (part-time hours).

There is also a difference in the methodology used to collect the information in these surveys. The LFS uses the Any Responsible Adult (ARA) methodology, where information is obtained on behalf of all the persons in a selected household who are in scope of the survey from any responsible adult. In contrast, some information from the JSE survey is collected by personal interview, that is, a person answers the questions on their own behalf. If the person who is asked JSE questions did not answer the LFS questions for themselves, there may be discrepancies between the LFS and JSE responses.

Future job starters (**end note 1**) are a sub population of the unemployed. While they have not been looking for any work, they are about to start some work shortly and so are considered unemployed. These people are still classified as unemployed people looking for either full-time or part-time work, however, this is based on whether the job they are about to start is either full-time or part-time. As with the 'looking' information, determining whether the job they are about to start is full-time or part-time is based on their interpretation. While the data is a too small a sample to make any conclusive observations, it appears that they may be taking up work that is not their preference; working more hours than they prefer, or not working enough.

SUMMARY

Although the two ABS measures which look at the available labour of unemployed people do not tell the same story, the story is similar. The majority of people are looking for work that match their preferred hours. For those whose preferred hours do not match the hours they are looking for there are a number of reasons. The main reasons for the differences between the estimated number of people looking for full-time or part-time work and the estimated number of hours they would prefer to work is one of measurement. In the LFS, only unemployed people who are not looking for full-time work are asked whether they are looking for part-time work, and the definition of full-time is left to them to determine. In the JSE Survey, unemployed people are asked for the number of hours they would like to work each week, and these are defined as full-time or part-time according to the ABS definitions.

END NOTES

1. The definition of **unemployed** is: Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the past four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week, or
- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then (future job starters).[Back](#)

2. The JSE Survey is conducted in July of each year and is one of a range of supplementary surveys run in conjunction with the LFS. The supplementary survey and the LFS form the Monthly Population Survey. The JSE Survey collects information that is used to determine the number of hours an unemployed person would prefer to work each week. The information that determines whether an unemployed person is looking for full-time or part-time work is collected in the LFS component.[Back](#)

3. The question used to determine the number of preferred hours from the JSE survey is:

How many hours a week would you like to work?

The questions used to determine whether they are looking for full-time or part-time work in the LFS are:

'At any time in the last four weeks has been looking for full-time work?' and

'At any time in the last four weeks has been looking for part-time work?'[Back](#)

4. The definition of **employed full-time** is: employed persons who usually work 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and those who, although usually working less than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.

The definition of **employed part-time** is: employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.[Back](#)

5. The definition of **unemployed looking for full-time work** is: unemployed persons who: actively looked for full-time work, or were waiting to start a new full-time job.

The definition of **unemployed looking for part-time work** is: unemployed persons who: actively looked for part-time work only, or were waiting to start a new part-time job.[Back](#)

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 [Australian Labour Market Statistics](#) brings together a range of ABS labour statistics to present a statistical summary of the Australian labour market. It has been developed primarily as a reference document, and provides a broad basis for labour analysis and research.

2 In addition to data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), this publication contains statistics from a range of other ABS labour surveys including Average Weekly Earnings, the Labour Price Index, Job Vacancies, Employment and Earnings - Public Sector, and Industrial Disputes. The publication also includes summary data from recently released labour force supplementary surveys.

3 This publication includes international data for selected labour market indicators.

LABOUR STATISTICS CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

4 The concepts and definitions underpinning ABS labour statistics align closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts of Australia's labour market statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling the estimates, are presented in **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), which is available on the ABS website at <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [Themes - People - Labour - **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods**].

5 For an explanation of terms used in this publication, refer to the Glossary.

LABOUR STATISTICS THEME PAGE

6 The Labour Statistics theme page is a portal to all labour statistics and related information residing on the ABS website. The page contains hyperlinks to **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001); information about labour related surveys; and a help page for respondents to ABS labour related surveys. The Labour Theme Page can be accessed at <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [Themes - People - Labour].

TREND ESTIMATES

7 Series in this publication include **original** and **trend** series. Special care should be taken in interpreting data for the most recent months and quarters, as some of the original and all of the trend series are subject to revision.

8 It is not uncommon for movements in original time series data and those provided from trend series to differ. Movements in a time series of original data may reflect several factors, including:

- longer-term changes in the item being measured (i.e. trend movements)
- short-term irregular changes
- regular seasonal influences
- normal 'trading', 'working' or 'pay' day patterns
- systematic holiday effects.

9 Trend estimates help the user to identify the underlying magnitude and direction of a time series. Seasonal adjustment removes the effect of the last three listed influences from the data, leaving only trend and short-term irregular movements. Trend estimates are then obtained by removing the effects of the short-term irregularities, which in some series can be a major contributor to movements in the original data.

10 Trend estimates are produced by smoothing the seasonally adjusted series using a statistical procedure based on Henderson moving averages. At each time point in a series, a trend estimate is calculated using a centred x-term Henderson moving average of the seasonally adjusted series. The moving averages are centred on the point in time at which the trend is being estimated. The number of terms used to calculate the trend varies across surveys. Generally, ABS monthly surveys use a 13-term moving average and quarterly surveys use a 7-term moving average.

11 Estimates for the most recent time points cannot be calculated using the centred average method as there are insufficient data to do so. Instead, alternative approaches that approximate the smoothing properties of the Henderson moving average are used. This can lead to revision in the trend estimates for the most recent time periods until sufficient data are available to calculate the trend using the centred Henderson moving average. Revisions of trend estimates will also occur with revisions to the original data and re-estimation of seasonal adjustment factors.

12 Seasonal factors are reviewed at least annually for ABS labour series, to take account of additional original data. The results of the latest reviews were used to compile the trend estimates given in this publication. For further information about the most recent reviews of seasonal factors for the labour surveys, see the following publications:

- for labour force see **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0)
- for labour price index see **Labour Price Index, Australia** (cat. no. 6345.0)
- for average weekly earnings see **Average Weekly Earnings, Australia** (cat. no. 6302.0)
- for public sector employees see **Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia** (cat. no. 6248.0.55.001)
- for job vacancies see **Job Vacancies, Australia** (cat. no. 6354.0).

13 The general methods used in the ABS for estimating trends are described in **Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series - Monitoring Trends** (cat. no. 1349.0).

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

14 Estimates in this publication are subject to two types of error:

- sampling error - errors that occur because the data were obtained from a sample rather than the entire population
- non-sampling error - errors that occur at any stage of a survey and can also occur in a census, e.g. incorrect responses to questions, processing errors, frame deficiencies.

15 For more information on these sources of error, and on measures of these types of errors, including standard errors, refer to the main publications associated with each of the data series presented in this publication (see the relevant sections later in these Explanatory Notes). More information on standard errors applying to LFS estimates is contained in [Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, 2005](#) (cat. no. 6298.0). To assist users, a spreadsheet incorporating the revised standard error models using composite estimation is available from [Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube, 2007](#) (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001).

ROUNDING

16 Estimates have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY DATA

Description of the survey

17 Data in tables 1.1-1.7, 2.1-2.10, 3.1-3.3, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 are obtained from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), which provides extensive information about the labour market on a monthly basis. The LFS is a component of the Monthly Population Survey (MPS), which includes the LFS and supplementary surveys.

Monthly Population Survey

18 The MPS is a population survey based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (currently about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.), and list samples of discrete Indigenous communities and non-private dwellings (hospitals, hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about 0.45% of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from occupants of selected dwellings by interviewers, with the first interview conducted face-to-face and subsequent interviews over the telephone. Once selected, households are included for eight consecutive months before being replaced.

Labour Force Survey

19 The LFS has been conducted on a monthly basis since February 1978. Prior to that, from 1964 to 1978, a national survey was conducted quarterly. Telephone interviewing was introduced between August 1996 and February 1997. New questionnaires have been introduced periodically, most recently in April 2001.

20 The LFS includes all usual residents of Australia aged 15 and over except:

- members of the permanent defence forces
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts
- overseas residents in Australia
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

21 From July 1993, Jervis Bay Territory has been excluded from the scope of the LFS.

Supplementary surveys

22 The supplementary surveys collect additional data on a different topic each month. Many topics covered are rotated on an annual or less frequent basis, while others are included once only. Results from each supplementary survey topic are released separately. A list of topics covered in recent years is in Appendix 3.

23 Tables 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 contain data from the annual supplementary surveys Underemployed Workers and Persons Not in the Labour Force. These tables are updated annually.

24 The supplementary surveys include a subset of the persons included in the LFS (see paragraph 20). The additional exclusions for most supplementary surveys are:

- persons living in private dwellings in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia
- institutionalised persons
- boarding school pupils.

Multi Purpose Household Survey

25 The Multi Purpose Household Survey (MPHS) was introduced in 2004-05. This survey vehicle is designed to provide statistics annually for a number of small, self contained topics, including a number of labour related topics. Data for MPHS topics are collected each month

over a financial year. A list of topics covered in recent years is in Appendix 3.

26 In addition to those already excluded from the LFS, the following people are excluded from most MPHS topics:

- people under 15 years
- people living in private dwellings in very remote parts of Australia
- people living in non-private dwellings such as hotels, university residences, students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for people with disabilities) and inmates of prisons
- visitors to private dwellings.

27 Depending on the topic, there may be further exclusions from scope. For example, some MPHS topics collect information only from a certain population or interest group (e.g. information on retirement and retirement intentions is collected from people aged 45 years or over).

Reference period

28 Interviews are generally conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month, with questions relating to the week prior to the interview (the reference week).

Notes on data

29 From time to time, changes to survey methodology affect the time series produced. Some examples of changes to this survey are: new questions added to the LFS questionnaire in April 2001; and the introduction of telephone interviewing in 1996-97.

30 In February 2004 the definition of unemployed persons was changed to include all persons who were waiting to start work and were available to start in the reference week, with consequent revisions to data from April 2001 to January 2004. For further details, see **Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2003** (cat. no. 6292.0).

31 In May 2007, an improved method of estimation, known as composite estimation, was introduced into the Labour Force Survey. In introducing this change the ABS revised unit record data from April 2001 to April 2007 based on the new estimation method. While estimates for periods prior to April 2001 are unrevised and were compiled using a different estimation method, no trend break was identified in the employed persons series. Also, no change was identified in the trend breaks in the unemployed persons and unemployment rate series which arose with the introduction of a redesigned survey form in April 2001. For further details, see **Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2007** (cat. no. 6292.0).

Population benchmarks

32 Labour Force Survey estimates are calculated in such a way as to add up to independent estimates of the civilian population aged 15 years and over (population benchmarks). These population benchmarks are projections of the most recently released quarterly Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data. For information on the methodology used to produce the ERP see **Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly** (cat. no. 3101.0). To create the population benchmarks for the Labour Force Survey, the most recently released quarterly ERP estimates are projected forward one quarter past the period for which they are required. The projection is based on the historical pattern of each population component - births, deaths, interstate migration and overseas migration. By projecting one quarter past that needed for the current population benchmarks, demographic changes are smoothed in, thereby making them less noticeable in the population benchmarks.

33 The ERP series are revised annually in the March quarter issue of **Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly** (cat. no. 3101.0), released in September each year, to incorporate more up to date information available for the population components. The revised ERP estimates are used to update the quarterly population projections used in creating the Labour Force Survey population benchmarks. Benchmarks already used in producing the Labour Force Survey estimates are not updated. A process of smoothing is used in the creation of population benchmarks to reduce the effect of these annual revisions to ERP estimates on the Labour Force Survey population benchmarks.

34 Every five years the ERP series are revised to incorporate additional information available from the latest Census of Population and Housing. Following the incorporation of Census information, the ERP series prior to the latest Census are final and subject to no further revision. Labour Force Survey population benchmarks, and the estimates, are revised following this 5-yearly revision in the ERP. From the February 2004 issue of this publication, labour force estimates have been compiled using population benchmarks based on the results of the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. Revisions were made in that issue to historical labour force estimates from January 1999 to January 2004.

Estimation method

35 The estimation method used in the Labour Force Survey is Composite Estimation, which was introduced in May 2007. Composite Estimation combines data collected in the previous six months with current month's data to produce the current month's estimates, thereby exploiting the high correlation between overlapping samples across months in the Labour Force Survey. The Composite Estimator combines the previous and current months' data by applying different factors according to length of time in the survey. After these factors are applied, the seven months of data are weighted to align with current month population benchmarks. For details see **Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2007** (cat. no. 6292.0).

Families series

36 Family relationship is not determined for all households and persons in scope of the LFS. This is due to a number of factors related to the scope and coverage of the LFS, as well as difficulties in determining family structure and characteristics. The survey questions used to determine family relationships are restricted to persons enumerated as usual residents of private dwellings. That is, the following persons are excluded:

- all persons enumerated in non-private dwellings (including hotels, motels, hospitals and other institutions)
- persons enumerated as visitors to (rather than usual residents of) private dwellings.

37 In addition, in those households where it is not possible to obtain information relating to all the usual residents, no family information is recorded. Thus, persons living in households that include a member of the permanent defence forces, who is outside the scope of the LFS, are excluded from survey questions used to determine family relationships. This also applies to households that, at the time of the survey, had one or more of their usual residents away for more than six weeks, and households from which an incomplete or inadequate questionnaire was obtained for any usual resident in scope of the survey.

Further information and data on the LFS

38 LFS estimates are published monthly in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0). A series of time series spreadsheets are released at the same time as this publication under cat. no. 6202.0.55.001. More detailed estimates are released, in electronic format, one week later, under cat. no. 6291.0.55.001 for monthly data, or cat. no. 6291.0.55.003 for quarterly data. All electronic data can be accessed via the ABS website at <https://www.abs.gov.au>. Additional data are available on request.

39 For further information about the range of LFS products and services, and the concepts and methodology used in the LFS, refer to Information Paper: Changes to Labour Force Survey Products (cat. no. 6297.0), Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), or contact the Assistant Director, Labour Force Survey on Canberra (02) 6252 6565.

INTERNATIONAL DATA

40 Table 1.8 contains data from the International Labour Organisation.

41 Estimates of key indicators of the labour markets from various countries have been included for comparison with Australian estimates of labour force participation, employment, unemployment and unemployment rates.

EMPLOYER SURVEY DATA

42 Tables 2.11, 5.1-5.3, 6.1-6.2 and 7.1 of this publication contain data from ABS employer surveys.

Scope of employer surveys

43 Except where otherwise noted, the sample for ABS labour employer surveys is selected from the ABS Business Register, which is primarily based on registrations to the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) Pay As You Go Withholding scheme. The population is updated quarterly to take account of new businesses, business that have ceased employing, changes in employment levels, changes in industry, and other general business changes. Businesses excluded from the scope of the employer surveys are:

- those primarily engaged in Agriculture, forestry and fishing (except for the Survey of Employment and Earnings)
- private households employing staff
- overseas embassies, consulates, etc.
- those located outside Australia.

PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES DATA

Description of the survey

44 Table 2.11 contains employment data from the Survey of Employment and Earnings - Public Sector (SEE).

45 The Survey of Employment and Earnings has been conducted on a quarterly basis since the September quarter 1983. The survey measures both the number of public sector wage and salary earners employed in the middle month of each quarter and their total quarterly earnings.

Reference period

46 The reference period for employment is the last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter.

Notes on data

47 The private sector component of the Survey of Employment and Earnings was discontinued after the December quarter 2001.

48 The privatisation of Telstra Corporation in November 2006 significantly impacted the public sector employment series. Telstra Corporation was effectively privatised on 20 November 2006. For the purpose of ABS statistics this change from public sector to private sector is effective from March quarter 2007. For more information please see **Information Paper: Future Treatment of Telstra in ABS Statistics, 2007** (cat. no. 8102.0).

49 As a result of privatisation, Telstra Corporation was no longer in the scope of SEE, and Telstra data were excluded from the series from March quarter 2007. As a result, a trend break was applied to the Commonwealth government and total public sector employees series between November 2006 and February 2007.

Further information

50 For further information about data relating to public sector employees, and the concepts and methodology used, refer to **Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia** (cat. no. 6248.0.55.001), and **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), or contact the Manager, Survey of Employment and Earnings, Public Sector on Perth (08) 93603141.

WAGE PRICE INDEX DATA

51 Table 5.1 contains data from the **Labour Price Index, Australia** (cat. no. 6345.0) publication.

Description of the survey

52 The Labour Price Index measures change in the price of labour in the Australian labour market, unaffected by changes in the quality or quantity of work performed. i.e. it is unaffected by changes in the composition of the labour force, hours worked, or changes in characteristics of employees (e.g. work performance). In the LPI, index numbers are compiled for a range of wage and non-wage costs. Information about the wage price indexes has been released for each quarter since September 1997. Approximately 20,000 matched jobs from 4,800 businesses are priced each quarter.

Reference period

53 The reference period for the survey is the last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the mid-month of the quarter.

Further information

54 For further information about the range of products and services relating to the Wage Price Index, and the concepts and methodology used, refer to **Labour Price Index, Australia** (cat. no. 6345.0), **Labour Price Index, Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6351.0.55.001), the associated time series spreadsheets available from the ABS website, or contact the Manager, Labour Price Index on Perth (08) 9360 5151.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS DATA

55 Table 5.2 contains data from the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings (AWE).

Description of the survey

56 The Survey of Average Weekly Earnings has been conducted quarterly since August 1981. Approximately 5,500 businesses contribute to the survey each quarter. The purpose of the survey is to measure average gross weekly earnings of employee jobs in Australia.

57 Average weekly earnings statistics represent average gross (before tax) earnings of employees and do not relate to average award rates nor to the earnings of the 'average person'. Estimates of average weekly earnings are derived by dividing estimates of weekly total earnings by estimates of number of employees. Changes in the averages may be affected not only by changes in the level of earnings of employees but also by changes in the overall composition of the wage and salary earner segment of the labour force.

Reference period

58 The reference period for the survey is the last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter. For non-weekly payrolls, businesses are asked to provide one week's portion.

Notes on data

59 The privatisation of Telstra Corporation in November 2006 has significantly impacted on the private sector and public sector average weekly earnings series. Telstra Corporation was effectively privatised on 20 November 2006. For the purposes of ABS statistics this change from public sector to private sector is effective from March quarter 2007. The effect of this change is significant for both the private sector and public sector series. As a result, a trend break has been applied to both series between November 2006 and February 2007. For more

information please see **Information Paper: Future Treatment of Telstra in ABS Statistics, 2007** (cat. no. 8102.0).

Further information

60 For further information about average weekly earnings statistics and the concepts and methodology used refer to **Average Weekly Earnings, Australia** (cat. no. 6302.0), and **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), or contact the Manager, Survey of Average Weekly Earnings on Perth (08) 9360 5304.

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS DATA

61 Table 5.3 contains data from the Australian National Accounts.

62 Estimates of compensation of employees are contained within the Income Accounts of the Australian National Accounts, which are published in **Australian System of National Accounts** (cat. no. 5204.0) and **Australian Economic Indicators** (cat. no. 1350.0). For further information on how estimates are obtained, see **Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 5216.0).

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES DATA

63 Tables 6.1 and 6.2 contain data from the Industrial Disputes collection.

Description of the survey

64 The ABS has been collecting information about industrial disputes since 1913. The Industrial Disputes collection produces estimates of the number of industrial disputes (where ten or more working days are lost), employees involved, and working days lost.

65 The scope of the Industrial Disputes collection is restricted to employing businesses at which an industrial dispute has occurred. For this collection, industrial disputes are defined as work stoppages of ten working days or more. Ten working days are equivalent to the amount of ordinary time worked by ten people in one day, regardless of the length of the stoppage, e.g. 3,000 workers on strike for two hours would be counted as 750 working days lost (assuming they work an eight-hour day).

66 Effects on other establishments not directly involved in the dispute, such as stand-downs because of lack of materials, disruption of transport services, power cuts, etc. are not included in the scope of this collection.

Reference period

67 The collection reference period is the calendar quarter.

Further information

68 For further information about industrial disputes statistics, and the concepts and methodology used, refer to the electronic publication **Industrial Disputes, Australia** (cat. no. 6321.0.55.001), and **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), or contact the Manager, Industrial Disputes on Perth (08) 9360 5159.

JOB VACANCIES DATA

69 Table 7.1 contains data from the Job Vacancies Survey (JVS).

Description of the survey

70 The current Job Vacancies Survey has been conducted since November 1983 and is a quarterly sample survey of approximately 5,000 employers. The survey produces estimates of the number of job vacancies in Australia.

Reference date

71 The reference date for the survey is the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter.

Notes on data

72 Prior to the August quarter 1999, job vacancies statistics were collected as part of the Job Vacancies and Overtime Survey. The overtime component of the survey ceased following the May quarter 1999.

73 The privatisation of Telstra Corporation in November 2006 impacted the private sector and public sector job vacancies series. For the purposes of ABS statistics this change from public sector to private sector was effective from March quarter 2007. For more information please see **Information Paper: Future Treatment of Telstra in ABS Statistics, 2007** (cat. no. 8102.0).

74 Although the privatisation of Telstra Corporation in November 2006 impacted on both the private and public sector series, the effect was significant only for the public sector series. As a result, a trend break was applied to the public sector series between November 2006 and February 2007.

Further information

75 For further information about the range of products and services relating to ABS job vacancies statistics, and the concepts and methodology used, refer to **Job Vacancies, Australia** (cat. no. 6354.0), **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), the associated time series spreadsheets available from the ABS website, or contact the Manager, Job Vacancies Survey on Perth (08) 9360 5304.

Glossary

GLOSSARY

Active steps to find work

Includes writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; answering an advertisement for a job; checking factory noticeboards or the touchscreens at Centrelink offices; being registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker; checking or registering with any other employment agency; advertising or tendering for work; and contacting friends or relatives.

Actual hours worked

The hours actually worked during the reference week, not necessarily hours paid for.

Adult employees

Adult employees are those employees 21 years of age or over and those employees who, although under 21 years of age, are paid at the full adult rate for their occupation.

Aggregate (actual) hours worked

The total number of hours a group of employed persons has actually worked during the reference week, not necessarily hours paid for.

Attending full-time education

Persons aged 15-24 years who were enrolled full-time at secondary school, high school, Technical and Further Education (TAFE) college, university, or other educational institution in the reference week.

Average compensation per employee

National Accounts. The total compensation of employees divided by the number of employees.

Average earnings (National Accounts basis)

See **average compensation per employee**.

Average hours worked

Aggregate hours worked by a group divided by the number of persons in that group.

Average weekly earnings

Average weekly earnings represent average gross (before tax) earnings of employees and do not relate to average award rates nor to the earnings of the 'average person'. Estimates of average weekly earnings are derived by dividing estimates of weekly total earnings by estimates of number of employees. For information about scope exclusions applying to employer surveys, refer to paragraph 43 of the Explanatory Notes.

Civilian population aged 15 years and over

All usual residents of Australia aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

Commonwealth government employees

Employees of all departments, agencies and authorities created by or reporting to the Commonwealth Parliament. Those bodies run jointly by the Commonwealth Government and state governments are classified to Commonwealth.

Compensation of employees

National Accounts. The total remuneration, in cash or in kind, payable by enterprises to employees in return for work done by the employees during the accounting period. Compensation of employees comprises wages and salaries (in cash and in kind) and **employers' social contributions**. Compensation of employees is not payable in respect of unpaid work undertaken voluntarily, including the work done by members of a household within an unincorporated enterprise owned by the same household. Compensation of employees excludes any taxes payable by the employer on the wage and salary bill (e.g. payroll tax, fringe benefits tax). See [Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 5216.0) for further information.

Contributing family worker

A person who works without pay, in an economic enterprise operated by a relative.

Country of birth

Classified according to the [Standard Australian Classification of Countries \(SACC\)](#) (cat. no. 1269.0).

Couple families

A family based on two persons who are in a registered or de facto marriage and who are usually resident in the same household.

Dependants

All family members under 15 years, and all children aged 15-24 years attending full-time education (except those who have a partner or child of their own usually resident in the household).

Dependent child

Any child in a family under 15 years of age or aged 15-24 years who is attending full-time education (except those who have a partner or child of their own usually resident in the household).

Dependent student

A child who is 15-24 years of age, who is attending full-time education, and who has no partner or child of his or her own usually resident in the same household.

Discouraged jobseekers

Persons with marginal attachment to the labour force who wanted to work and were available to start work within the next four weeks but whose main reason for not actively looking for work was that they believed they would not find a job for any of the following reasons:

- considered to be too young/too old by employers
- lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience
- difficulties because of language or ethnic background
- no jobs in their locality or line of work
- no jobs available at all.

Duration of unemployment

Under the redesigned LFS questionnaire, implemented in April 2001, the definition of duration of unemployment is the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked in any job for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.

Prior to April 2001, duration of unemployment was defined in the LFS as the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked full-time for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.

Employed

Employed persons include all persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or
 - on strike or locked out; or
 - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or
- were employers or own account workers, who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Employed full-time

See **full-time employed**.

Employed part-time

See **part-time employed**.

Employee

Labour Force Survey and other household surveys. A person who works for a public or private employer and receives remuneration in wages, salary, a retainer fee from their employer while working on a commission basis, tips, piece rates, or payment in kind, or a person who operates their own incorporated enterprise with or without hiring employees.

Employer surveys. Employees are wage and salary earners who received pay for any part of the reference period. For information about scope exclusions applying to employer surveys, refer to paragraph 43 of the Explanatory Notes.

Employee job

Wage Price Index. A job for which the occupant receives remuneration in wages, salary, payment in kind, or piece rates. All employee jobs in all employing organisations (except those excluded from all ABS labour employer surveys) are in scope of the WPI, except the following:

- 'non-maintainable' jobs (i.e. jobs that are expected to be occupied for less than six months of a year)
- jobs for which wages and salaries are not determined by the Australian labour market (e.g. working proprietors of small incorporated enterprises, most employees of Community Development Employment Programs, jobs where the remuneration is set in a foreign country).

For information about scope exclusions applying to employer surveys, refer to paragraph 43 of the Explanatory Notes.

Employer

Labour Force Survey and other household surveys. A person who operates their own unincorporated economic enterprise or engages independently in a profession or trade, and hires one or more employees.

Employer surveys. A business with one or more employees.

Employers' social contributions

National Accounts. Contributions by employers to pension and superannuation funds; and premiums paid by employers to workers' compensation schemes for occupational injuries and diseases.

Extended labour force underutilisation rate

The unemployed, plus the underemployed, plus two groups of marginally attached to the labour force:

- (i) persons actively looking for work, not available to start work in the reference week, but available to start work within four weeks

and
(ii) discouraged jobseekers

as a percentage of the labour force augmented by (i) and (ii).

Family

Two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering; and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. Some households will, therefore, contain more than one family.

Family reference person

In families which are not couple families or one-parent families, as defined, the family reference person is the eldest person in the household.

Former workers

Unemployed persons who have previously worked for two weeks or more but not in the last two years.

Full-time educational attendance

Persons aged 15-19 who, during the reference week were enrolled full-time at secondary or high schools, and those aged 15-24 who, during the reference week, were enrolled full-time at a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) college, university, or other tertiary educational institution.

Full-time employed

Household surveys. Persons employed full-time are those employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and those who, although usually working less than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.

Full-time employees

Employer surveys. Full-time employees are permanent, fixed term and casual employees who normally work the agreed or award hours for a full-time employee in their occupation and received pay for any part of the reference period. If agreed or award hours do not apply, employees are regarded as full-time if they ordinarily work 35 hours or more per week.

Gross domestic product (GDP)

National Accounts. The total market value of goods and services produced in Australia within a given period after deducting the cost of goods and services used up in the process of production but before deducting allowances for the consumption of fixed capital. Thus gross domestic product, as here defined, is at 'market prices'. It is equivalent to gross national expenditure plus exports of goods and services less imports of goods and services. See [Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 5216.0) for further information.

Gross mixed income (GMI)

National Accounts. The owners of unincorporated enterprises, or other members of their households, may work without receiving any wage or salary. Mixed income includes both **gross operating surplus** for the unincorporated enterprises and returns for the proprietors' own labour (akin to wages and salaries). See [Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 5216.0) for further information.

Gross operating surplus (GOS)

National Accounts. The amount of gross output remaining after subtracting costs incurred in producing that output, but before any deductions for consumption of fixed capital. See [Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 5216.0) for further information.

Household

A group of one or more persons in a private dwelling who consider themselves to be separate from other persons (if any) in the dwelling, and who make regular provision to take meals separately from other persons, i.e. at different times or in different rooms. Lodgers who receive accommodation but no meals are treated as separate households. Boarders who receive both accommodation and meals are not treated as separate households. A household may consist of any number of families and non-family members.

Industrial dispute

An industrial dispute is defined as a state of disagreement over an issue or group of issues between an employer and its employees, which results in employees ceasing work. Industrial disputes comprise strikes, which are a withdrawal from work by a group of employees; and lockouts, which are a refusal by an employer or group of employers to permit some or all of their employees to work.

Industry

An industry is a group of businesses or organisations that perform similar sets of activities in terms of the production of goods and services. Industry is classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 1993 (cat. no. 1292.0). The industry assigned to an employed person is the industry of the organisation in which the person's main job is located. Unemployed persons who had worked for two weeks or more in the last two years are classified according to the industry of their most recent job.

Job leavers

Unemployed persons who have worked for two weeks or more in the past two years and **left that job voluntarily** - that is, because (for example): of unsatisfactory work arrangements/pay/hours; the job was a holiday job or they left the job to return to studies; or their last job was running their own business and they closed down or sold that business for reasons other than financial difficulties.

Job losers

Unemployed persons who have worked for two weeks or more in the past two years and **left that job involuntarily**: that is, they were laid off or retrenched from that job; left that job because of their own ill-health or injury; the job was seasonal or temporary; or their last job was running their own business and the business closed down because of financial difficulties.

Job vacancy

A job vacancy is an employee job available for immediate filling on the survey reference date and for which recruitment action has been taken. Recruitment action includes efforts to fill vacancies by advertising, by factory notices, by notifying public or private employment agencies or trade unions and by contacting, interviewing or selecting applicants already registered with the enterprise or organisation. Excluded are vacancies:

- for jobs which became vacant on the survey date and were filled that same day
- for jobs of less than one day's duration
- to be filled by persons already hired, or by promotion or transfer of existing employees
- to be filled by employees returning from paid or unpaid leave or after industrial dispute(s)
- not available for immediate filling on the survey reference date
- for work to be carried out by contractors
- for which no recruitment action has been taken
- where a person has been appointed but has not yet commenced duty
- to be filled by staff from contract labour agencies
- for jobs available only to persons already employed by the enterprise or organisation.

For information about scope exclusions applying to employer surveys, refer to paragraph 43 of the Explanatory Notes.

Labour force

The labour force is the labour supply available for the production of economic goods and services in a given period, and is the most widely used measure of the economically active population. Persons in the labour force are classified as either employed or unemployed according to their activities during the reference period by using a specific set of priority rules.

Labour force status

A classification of the civilian population aged 15 years and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force, as defined. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions adopted by the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians.

Labour force underutilisation rate

The unemployed plus the underemployed, as a percentage of the labour force.

Local government employees

Employees of municipalities and shires and other local authorities created by or subject to the provisions of local government legislation, such as county councils in New South Wales.

Lone parent

A person who has no spouse or partner present in the household but who forms a parent-child relationship with at least one dependent or non-dependent child usually resident in the household.

Lone person

A person who makes provision for their food and other essentials for living, without combining with any other person to form part of a multi-person household. They may live in a dwelling on their own or share a dwelling with another individual or family.

Long-term unemployed

Persons unemployed for 12 months or more. See **duration of unemployment** for details of the calculation of duration of unemployment.

Long-term unemployment rate

The number of long-term unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Marginal attachment to the labour force

Persons who were not in the labour force in the reference week, wanted to work, and:

- were actively looking for work but did not meet the availability criteria to be classified as unemployed or
- were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks or could start work within four weeks if child care was available.

The criteria for determining those in the labour force are based on activity (i.e. working or looking for work) and availability to start work during the reference week. The criteria associated with marginal attachment to the labour force, in particular the concepts of wanting to work and reasons for not actively looking for work, are more subjective. Hence, the measurement against these criteria is affected by the respondent's own interpretation of the concepts used. An individual respondent's interpretation may be affected by their work aspirations, as well as family, economic and other commitments.

Marital status

See **social marital status**.

Mean age

The sum of the ages of all the persons in a group, divided by the total number of persons in that group.

Mean duration of unemployment

The sum of the duration of unemployment of all the unemployed persons in a group, divided by the total number of unemployed persons in that group.

Median age

The age which divides a group of persons into two equal groups: one comprising persons whose age is above the median; and the other, persons whose age is below it.

Median duration of unemployment

The duration which divides unemployed persons into two equal groups: one comprising persons whose duration of unemployment is above the median; and the other, persons whose duration is below it.

Non-dependent child

A child of a couple or lone parent usually resident in the household, aged over 15 years and who is not a dependent student aged 15-24 years, and who has no partner or child of their own usually resident in the household.

Non-family member

A person who is not related to any other member of the household in which they are living.

Not in the labour force

Persons who were not classified as employed or unemployed.

Occupation

An occupation is a collection of jobs that are sufficiently similar in their main tasks to be grouped together for the purposes of classification. Occupation is classified according to the **ASCO Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition** (cat. no. 1220.0). The occupation assigned to an employed person relates to the person's main job. Unemployed persons who had worked for two weeks or more in the last two years are classified according to the occupation of their most recent job.

One-parent family

A family consisting of a lone parent with at least one dependent or non-dependent child (regardless of age) who is also usually resident in the household.

Ordinary time earnings

See **weekly ordinary time earnings**.

Original series

Estimates produced directly from the survey data, before seasonal adjustment or trend estimation takes place.

Other family

Related individuals residing in the same household who do not form a couple or parent-child relationship with any other person in the household and are not attached to a couple or one parent family in the household. If two brothers, for example, are living together and neither is a spouse, a lone parent or a child, then they are classified as other family.

Overtime earnings

See **weekly overtime earnings**.

Own-account worker

A person who operates his or her own unincorporated economic enterprise or engages independently in a profession or trade, and hires no employees.

Participation rate

The labour force participation rate for any group within the population is the labour force component of that group, expressed as a percentage of the population in that group.

Part-time employed

Household surveys. Persons employed part-time are those employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.

Reason for leaving last job

Unemployed persons who had worked for two weeks or more in the past two years classified by whether they left that job voluntarily, that is, job leavers; or left that job involuntarily, that is, job losers.

Seasonally adjusted series

A time series of estimates with the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation removed. See paragraphs 7-13 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail.

Social marital status

Social marital status is the relationship status of an individual with reference to another person who is usually resident in the household. A marriage exists when two people live together as husband and wife, or partners, regardless of whether the marriage is formalised through registration. Individuals are, therefore, regarded as married if they are in a de facto marriage, or if they are living with the person to whom they are registered as married.

State capital cities

The areas determining the six state capital cities are the Statistical Divisions for those capital cities defined in the **Statistical Geography: Volume 1 - Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)** (cat. no. 1216.0).

State government employees

Employees of all State government departments and authorities created by, or reporting to, State Parliaments, including organisations for which the Commonwealth has assumed financial responsibility. Following self-government, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory administrations have been classified to State Governments. Employees of State Governments employed interstate are included in the estimates of the State in which they are based.

Status in employment

Employed persons classified by whether they were employees, employers, own account workers or contributing family workers.

Total earnings

See **weekly total earnings**.

Total hourly rates of pay index excluding bonuses

Wage Price Index. This index measures quarterly change in a weighted combination of ordinary time and overtime hourly rates of pay. See **Labour Price Index, Australia** (cat. no. 6345.0) for more information.

Trend series

A smoothed seasonally adjusted series of estimates. See paragraphs 7-13 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail.

Underemployed workers

Underemployed workers are employed persons who want, and are available for, more hours of work than they currently have. They comprise:

- persons employed part-time who want to work more hours and are available to start work with more hours, either in the reference week or in the four weeks subsequent to the survey
- persons employed full-time who worked part-time hours in the reference week for economic reasons (such as being stood down or insufficient work being available). It is assumed that these people wanted to work full-time in the reference week and would have been available to do so.

Underemployment rate

The number of underemployed workers expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Unemployed

Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week, or
- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Unemployed looking for first full-time job

Unemployed persons looking for full-time work who had never worked full-time for two weeks or more.

Unemployed looking for first job

Unemployed persons who had never worked for two weeks or more.

Unemployed looking for full-time work

Unemployed persons who:

- actively looked for full-time work, or
- were waiting to start a new full-time job.

Unemployed looking for part-time work

Unemployed persons who:

- actively looked for part-time work only, or
- were waiting to start a new part-time job.

Unemployment rate

The number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Unemployment to population ratio

For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 and over in the same group.

Usual hours worked

The hours usually worked per week by an employed person.

Wage and salary earners

See **employee**.

Weekly ordinary time earnings

Weekly ordinary time earnings refers to one week's earnings of employees for the reference period attributable to award, standard or agreed hours of work, calculated before taxation and any other deductions (e.g. superannuation, board and lodging) have been made. Included are piecework payments and one week's portion of regular production and task bonuses and commissions. Excluded are overtime payments and payments not related to the reference period, e.g. bonus payments for earlier periods of work.

Weekly overtime earnings

Weekly overtime earnings refers to payment for hours worked in the reference week in excess of award, standard or agreed hours of work, calculated before taxation and any other deductions (e.g. superannuation) have been made.

Weekly total earnings

Weekly total earnings of employees is equal to weekly ordinary time earnings plus weekly overtime earnings.

Working days lost

Refers to working days lost by employees directly and indirectly involved in the dispute.

Working days lost per thousand employees

Calculated for a quarterly period by dividing the total number of working days lost in the period by the total number of employees in the Australian labour force in the period (obtained from the ABS Labour Force Survey) and multiplying by 1,000.

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

The following symbols and abbreviations are used in this publication:

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
AWE	average weekly earnings
EEH	Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours
ERP	estimated resident population
GDP	gross domestic product
ID	industrial disputes
ILO	International Labour Organization
JVS	Job Vacancies Survey
LFS	Labour Force Survey
LPI	labour price index
MPHS	Multi-Purpose Household Survey
MPS	Monthly Population Survey
qtr	quarter
RSE	relative standard error
SEE	Survey of Employment and Earnings
WPI	wage price index

Data sources for tables (Appendix 1)

APPENDIX 1 DATA SOURCES FOR TABLES

HOW TO FIND DATA SOURCES

All ABS statistics can be downloaded free of charge from the ABS website.

To find a labour market related publication, spreadsheet or datacube on the ABS website, go to <https://www.abs.gov.au> [Statistics - By Catalogue Number - 6. Labour Statistics and Prices]. All products can be accessed by catalogue number and subject e.g. to find the publication **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0), look under '62. Labour force'. Select '6202.0 - Labour Force, Australia' and from the Summary tab select the Details tab.

No.	Table description	Data source	Notes
1.1	Labour force status: trend series	Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) 6202.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 1	
1.2	Age by marital status	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 1	
1.3	States and territories	Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 2	Excludes Capital city/balance of state
1.4	Educational attendance	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 3	More detailed Age
1.5	Country of birth	6291.0.55.001 data cube LM4	Includes Sex, State, less detailed Country of birth
		6291.0.55.001 data cube LM5	Includes Sex, Age, State, less detailed Country of birth
		6291.0.55.001 data cube LM6	Includes Sex, State
		6291.0.55.001 data cube LM7	Includes Sex, State, less detailed Country of birth
	Year of arrival	6291.0.55.001 data cube LM4	Includes Sex, State, less detailed Country of birth
		6291.0.55.001 data cube LM7	Includes Sex, State, less detailed Country of birth
1.6	Relationship in household	6291.0.55.001 data cube FM1 6291.0.55.001 data cube FM2 6291.0.55.001 data cube FM3 6291.0.55.001 data cube FM4	Includes State Includes Age Includes Hours worked Unemployed persons only, includes Duration of unemployment
1.7	Families	6224.0.55.001 data cube FA2	June data only
1.8	International comparisons	International Labour Organisation, Year Book of Labour Statistics 1998, 2000, 2001 and 2002 International Labour Organisation, Key Indicators of the Labour Market 2001-02 International Labour Organisation, LABORSTA database: http://laborsta.ilo.org	
2.1	Industry: trend	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 4	Includes Employed full-time, Employed part-time
2.2	Industry: divisions and subdivisions	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 6 6291.0.55.003 data cube E03	
		6291.0.55.003 data cube E05	Includes Sex, State, Hours worked, less detailed Industry
		6291.0.55.003 data cube E06	Includes Sex, Age, Status in employment, Hours worked Includes Sex, State, Status in employment, Hours worked, more detailed Industry

2.3 Occupation	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 7	Less detailed Occupation
	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 12	Includes Hours worked, less detailed Occupation
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E07	Includes Age, Hours worked, Status in employment
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E08	Includes State, Status in employment, more detailed Occupation
2.4 Industry and occupation by full-time/part-time status	6291.0.55.003 data cube E09	Includes State, Hours worked
2.5 Industry by status in employment	6291.0.55.003 data cube E04	Includes Sex, State, excludes Industry
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E05	Includes Sex, Age, more detailed Industry
Occupation by status in employment	6291.0.55.003 data cube E06	Includes Sex, State, more detailed Industry
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E04	Includes Sex, State, excludes Occupation
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E07	Includes Sex, Age, more detailed Occupation
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E08	Includes Sex, State, more detailed Occupation
Hours worked in all jobs by status in employment	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 8	Excludes Hours worked, includes Sex, Employed full-time, Employed part-time
	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 13	Includes Sex
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E04	Includes Sex, State
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E05	Includes Sex, Age, Industry
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E06	Includes Sex, State, Industry
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E07	Includes Sex, Age, Occupation
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E08	Includes Sex, State, Occupation
2.6 Average hours worked in all jobs by Industry	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 11	
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E03	Includes State
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E05	Includes Age, Status in employment, more detailed Industry
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E06	Includes State, Status in employment, more detailed Industry
Average hours worked in all jobs by occupation	6291.0.55.003 data cube E09	Includes State, Occupation
	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 12	
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E07	Includes Age, Status in employment, more detailed Occupation
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E08	Includes State, Status in employment, more detailed Occupation
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E09	Includes State, Industry
2.7 Actual hours worked in all jobs	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 9	Includes Industry
	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 11	Includes Occupation
	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 12	Includes Status in employment
	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 13	Includes Age, State
	6291.0.55.001 data cube EM1	Includes State, Industry
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E03	Includes State, Status in employment
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E04	
2.8 Actual hours worked in all jobs	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 9	
	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 11	Includes Industry
	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 12	Includes Occupation
	6291.0.55.003 spreadsheet table 13	Includes Status in employment
	6291.0.55.001 data cube EM1	Includes Age, State
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E03	Includes State, Industry
	6291.0.55.003 data cube E04	Includes State, Status in employment
Usual hours worked in all jobs	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 10	
	6291.0.55.001 data cube EM3	Includes Age, State
	6291.0.55.001 data cube E10	Includes State, Industry
2.9 Full-time workers who worked less than 35 hours in all jobs	6291.0.55.001 data cube EM2	Includes Age, State, Hours worked
2.10 Future employment expectations by job tenure	6291.0.55.003 data cube E02	Excludes Future employment expectations, Includes Job tenure, State, Age
2.11 Public sector employees	Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia (cat. no. 6248.0.55.001)	
Public sector employees: Australia totals	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 1	Includes State
Public sector employees by level of government: trend	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 2	Includes Commonwealth government, State, seasonally adjusted and original data
	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 3	Includes State government, State, seasonally adjusted and original data
	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 4	Includes Local government, State, seasonally adjusted and original data
Public sector employees by State: trend	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 1	Includes seasonally adjusted and original data
	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 2	Includes Commonwealth government, seasonally adjusted and original data
	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 3	Includes State government, seasonally adjusted and original data
	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 4	Includes Local government, seasonally adjusted and original data
Public sector employees by industry: original	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 7a	Includes Industry
	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 7a	Includes State

3.1 Unemployed persons: duration of unemployment by age	6291.0.55.001 data cube UM2 6291.0.55.001 data cube UM3	Excludes Age, median Duration of unemployment Excludes median Duration of unemployment
3.2 Long-term unemployed	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 15 6291.0.55.001 data cube UM2	Excludes trend data, includes State, more detailed Duration of unemployment Excludes trend data, includes State, Age Excludes Industry of last job
3.3 Unemployed persons: reason for unemployment by industry of last job	6291.0.55.001 data cube UM3 6291.0.55.003 data cube UQ1	Excludes Reason for unemployment Excludes Occupation of last job
Unemployed persons: reason for unemployment by occupation of last job	6291.0.55.003 data cube UQ2 6291.0.55.003 data cube UQ1	Excludes Reason for unemployment
4.1 Underutilised labour	6291.0.55.003 data cube UQ3	
4.2 Underutilised labour	6105.0 spreadsheet table 1	
4.3 Underutilised labour	6105.0 spreadsheet table 1	
4.4 Part-time workers	6105.0 spreadsheet table 1	
4.5 Persons not in the labour force	6291.0.55.003 data cube E01	Less detailed Hours worked
5.1 Labour price index	6291.0.55.001 data cube NM1	
Labour price index: trend data	Labour Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6345.0) 6345.0 spreadsheet table 1	
Labour price index: Australia, states and territories	6345.0 spreadsheet table 2b	
Labour price index: private sector	6345.0 spreadsheet table 3b	Includes States and territories
Labour price index: public sector	6345.0 spreadsheet table 4b	Includes States and territories
Labour price index: industry	6345.0 spreadsheet table 5b	Includes Sector
Labour price index: occupation	6345.0 spreadsheet table 7b	Includes Sector
5.2 Average weekly earnings	Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0)	
Average weekly earnings by sex	6302.0 spreadsheet table 1	Includes Full-time adult total earnings
Average weekly earnings: private sector	6302.0 spreadsheet table 4	Includes Full-time adult total earnings
Average weekly earnings: public sector	6302.0 spreadsheet table 7	Includes Full-time adult total earnings
5.3 Compensation of employees	Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)	
6.1 Industrial disputes: working days lost	Industrial Disputes, Australia (cat. no. 6321.0.55.001)	
Industrial disputes: working days lost by state	6321.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 3a	
Industrial disputes: working days lost by industry	6321.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 2a	
6.2 Industrial disputes: working days lost per 1,000 employees	Industrial Disputes, Australia (cat. no. 6321.0.55.001)	
Industrial disputes: working days lost per 1,000 employees by state	6321.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 3b	
Industrial disputes: working days lost per 1,000 employees by industry	6321.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 2b	
7.1 Job vacancies	Job Vacancies, Australia (cat. no. 6354.0)	
Job vacancies: Australia, states and territories	6354.0 spreadsheet table 1	

List of Articles (Appendix 2)

APPENDIX 2 LIST OF ARTICLES

July 2007

Spotlight: Employment type

April 2007

Spotlight: Methods of setting pay

Spotlight: Updated volume measures of labour underutilisation

January 2007

Technical report: ABS measures of employee remuneration

October 2006

Changes in where people work over time

July 2006

[Job search experience of unemployed people](#)

[Labour force transitions](#)

[Spotlight: Employment type](#)

April 2006

[Spotlight: Updated volume measures of labour underutilisation](#)

January 2006

[Labour outcomes of migrants](#)

[The relationship between GDP and employment](#)

[Spotlight: Long-term unemployment](#)

October 2005

[Job starters](#)

[Comparison of ABS measures of employee remuneration](#)

[Spotlight: Employment type](#)

[Technical report: Standard error models for the Labour Force Survey](#)

[Technical report: Proposals from the review of ABS working arrangements statistics](#)

July 2005

[Full-time and part-time participation in Australia: a cohort analysis](#)

[Population, participation and productivity: contributions to Australia's economic growth](#)

[Spotlight: Employee share schemes](#)

[Technical report: Changes to coding processes for industry and occupation in the Labour Force Survey](#)

April 2005

[People who work few hours](#)

[Health, disability, age and labour force participation](#)

[Spotlight: Methods of setting pay](#)

[Spotlight: Annual measures of labour underutilisation](#)

January 2005

[Labour force participation in Australia](#)

[Experimental estimates of the average age at withdrawal from the labour force](#)

[Spotlight: Employment in information and communication technology \(ICT\).](#)

[Spotlight: Labour Price Index](#)

[Technical report: Implementation of computer assisted interviewing in the Labour Force Survey](#)

October 2004

[Changes in types of employment](#)

[Mature age people and the labour force](#)

July 2004

[Children living without an employed parent](#)

[Labour underutilisation](#)

[Spotlight: Industrial disputes](#)

[Technical report: Labour Force Survey regions](#)

April 2004

[Job search experience: methods and barriers in finding jobs](#)

[Trade union membership](#)

[Spotlight: Occupation](#)

[Technical report: Improvements to Labour Force estimates](#)

January 2004

[Employment in information and communication technology](#)

[Labour force participation: international comparison](#)

[Technical report: Changes to Labour Force Survey seasonal adjustment processes](#)

October 2003

[Labour market transitions of teenagers](#)

[Spotlight: Country of birth](#)

[Spotlight: Multiple job holders](#)

[Technical report: New Labour Force Survey sample selections: analysis of the effort on estimates](#)

July 2003

[Experimental volume measures of labour underutilisation](#)

[Unemployment and participation rates in Australia: a cohort analysis](#)

[Spotlight: Population, participation and productivity: contributions to Australia's economic growth](#)

[Technical report: Measures of weekly hours worked](#)

April 2003

[Do job vacancies provide a leading indicator of employment growth?](#)

[Characteristics of underemployed workers](#)

[Spotlight: Parental leave](#)

[Spotlight: Methods of setting pay](#)

[Technical report: Labour Force Survey sample redesign](#)

Note: the following articles appeared in **Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6203.0)**.

February 2003

[Seasonal reanalysis of monthly labour force estimates](#)

December 2002

[Volatility of labour force estimates](#)

October 2002

Measures of labour underutilisation

February 2002

[Seasonal reanalysis of monthly labour force estimates](#)

October 2001

[Full-time and part-time employment](#)

August 2001

Experimental estimates: labour force characteristics of Indigenous Australians

June 2001

[Duration of unemployment: recent definitional changes](#)

February 2001

[Unemployment and supplementary measures of underutilised labour](#)

[Seasonal reanalysis of monthly labour force estimates](#)

May 2000

[Status in employment data changes: correction](#)

April 2000

[Using the unemployment rate series to illustrate the seasonal adjustment process](#)

February 2000

Seasonal reanalysis of monthly labour force estimates

December 1999

Why are there differences between two seasonally adjusted measures of Australian total employment?

November 1999

Industry, occupation and status in employment data

Labour force status and other characteristics of families

October 1999

Labour force projections: 1999-2016

April 1999

Introduction of updated standard error estimates

February 1999

Revisions to monthly labour force estimates

January 1999

Concordance between the first and second editions of the **Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO)** - revised

Related publications (Appendix 3)

APPENDIX 3 RELATED PUBLICATIONS

Title	cat. no.	Frequency	Latest issue
Information papers and other reference material			
ABS Labour Market Statistics	6106.0.55.001	Irregular	2003
Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources & Methods	5216.0	Irregular	2000
Changes to ABS Measures of Employee Remuneration	6313.0	Irregular	2006
Changes to Labour Force Survey Products	6297.0	Irregular	2003
Estimating Average Annual Hours Worked	1352.0.55.077	Irregular	Jun 2006
Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics	6292.0	Irregular	2007
Labour Force Survey Sample Design	6269.0	Irregular	2002
Labour Force Survey Standard Errors	6298.0	Irregular	2005
Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube, 2007	6298.0.55.001	Irregular	2007
Labour Price Index: Concepts, Sources & Methods	6351.0.55.001	Irregular	2004
Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources & Methods	6102.0.55.001	Irregular	ABS website, 2007
Questionnaires Used in the Labour Force Survey	6232.0	Irregular	2004
Labour force supplementary surveys			
Career Experience	6254.0	Irregular	Nov 2002
Child Care	4402.0	Irregular	Jun 2005
Child Employment	6211.0	Irregular	Jun 2006
Education & Work	6227.0	Annual	May 2006
Employee Earnings, Benefits & Trade Union Membership	6310.0	Annual	Aug 2006
Forms of Employment	6359.0	Annual	Nov 2006
Job Search Experience	6222.0	Annual	Jul 2006
Labour Force Experience	6206.0	Biennial	Feb 2007
Labour Force Status & Other Characteristics of Families	6224.0.55.001	Annual	Jun 2007
Labour Force Status & Other Characteristics of Migrants	6250.0	Triennial	Nov 2004
Labour Mobility	6209.0	Biennial	Feb 2006
Locations of Work	6275.0	Irregular	Nov 2005
Multiple Jobholding(a)	6216.0	Discontinued	Final issue 2000
Persons Not in the Labour Force	6220.0	Annual	Sep 2007
Retrenchment & Redundancy(b)	6266.0	Discontinued	Final issue Jul 2001
Underemployed Workers	6265.0	Annual	Sep 2007
Working Time Arrangements	6342.0	Triennial	May 2007
Multi purpose household surveys			
Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation	6239.0	Biennial	Aug 2004 to Jun 2005
Retirement and Retirement Intentions(c)	6238.0	Biennial	Aug 2004 to Jun 2005
Work-Related Injuries(d)	6324.0	Irregular	2005-06
Sub-annual labour surveys			
Average Weekly Earnings	6302.0	Quarterly	May qtr 2007
Industrial Disputes	6321.0.55.001	Quarterly	Jun qtr 2007

Job Vacancies	6354.0	Quarterly	May qtr 2007
Labour Force	6202.0	Monthly	Aug 2007
Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Experimental Estimates from the Labour Force Survey	6287.0	Annual	2006
Labour Price Index	6345.0	Quarterly	Jun qtr 2007
Wage & Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia	6248.0.55.001	Quarterly	Jun qtr 2007
Other labour surveys			
Employee Earnings & Hours	6306.0	Biennial	May 2006
Employer Training Expenditure & Practices	6362.0	Irregular	2001-02
Labour Costs	6348.0.55.001	Irregular	2002-03
Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs)			
Australians' Employment and Unemployment Patterns, CURF, 1994-1997	6286.0.30.001	Irregular	1994 to 1997
Australians' Employment and Unemployment Patterns, 1994-1997: Expanded CURF	6286.0.55.001	Irregular	1994 to 1997
Australians' Employment and Unemployment Patterns: Expanded CURF, Technical Paper	6286.0.55.002	Irregular	1994 to 1997
Child Care, Australia, Expanded CURF	4402.0.55.001	Irregular	Jun 2005
Child Care, Australia, Expanded CURF, Technical Manual	4402.0.55.002	Irregular	Jun 2005
Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, Australia: CURF	6361.0.55.001	Irregular	Apr to Jun 2000
Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, Australia: CURF, Technical Paper	6361.0.55.002	Irregular	Apr to Jun 2000
Labour Force Survey and Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia: Basic CURF	6202.0.30.001	Biennial	Aug 2006
Labour Force Survey and Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia - Basic CURF, Technical Paper	6202.0.30.002	Biennial	Aug 2006
Labour Force Survey and Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia: Expanded CURF	6202.0.30.003	Biennial	Aug 2006
Labour Force Survey and Labour Mobility, Australia: Basic CURF	6202.0.30.004	Irregular	Feb 2006
Labour Force Survey and Labour Mobility, Australia: Basic CURF, Technical Manual	6202.0.30.005	Irregular	Feb 2006
Survey of Education and Training, Australia, Basic CURF, Technical Manual	6278.0.55.001	Irregular	2005
Survey of Education and Training, Australia, Basic CURF	6278.0.55.002	Irregular	2005
Survey of Education and Training, Australia, Expanded CURF, Technical Manual	6278.0.55.003	Irregular	2005
Survey of Education and Training, Australia, Expanded CURF	6278.0.55.004	Irregular	2005
Survey of Income and Housing - Basic and Expanded CURFs, Technical Paper	6541.0	Irregular	2005-06
Other publications			
Australian Economic Indicators	1350.0	Monthly	Oct 2007
Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure & Product	5206.0	Quarterly	Jun qtr 2007
Australian Social Trends	4102.0	Annual	2007
Australian System of National Accounts	5204.0	Annual	2005-06
Australians' Employment & Unemployment Patterns: First Results	6286.0	Discontinued	1994 to 1997
Business Indicators	5676.0	Quarterly	Jun qtr 2007
Census of Population & Housing: Selected Education & Labour Force Characteristics	2017.0	Five yearly	2001
Education & Training Indicators	4230.0	Irregular	2002
Employment Arrangements & Superannuation	6361.0	Irregular	Apr to Jun 2000
General Social Survey	4159.0	Irregular	2006
Government Benefits, Taxes & Household Income	6537.0	Irregular	2003-04
Household Income & Income Distribution	6523.0	Biennial	2005-06
Measures of Australia's Progress	1370.0	Biennial	2006
Regional Wage & Salary Earners - Electronic Publication	5673.0.55.001	Irregular	2003-04
Superannuation: Coverage & Financial Characteristics	6360.0	Irregular	Apr to Jun 2000
Voluntary Work	4441.0	Irregular	2006

(a) Latest data available on request for July 2001.

(b) Related data available from Labour Mobility.

(c) Previously conducted as a labour force supplementary survey until 1997, data now collected as part of the Multi Purpose Household Survey.

(d) Previously conducted as a labour force supplementary survey in 2000, data now collected as part of the Multi Purpose Household Survey.

List of Tables (Appendix 4)

The tables listed below are included in the publication **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0). Electronic sources of the data in these tables can be found in **Appendix 1**.

LIST OF TABLES

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- 1.4 Educational attendance (aged 15-24)
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- 1.6 Relationship in household
- 1.7 All families: family type by labour force status
- 1.8 International comparisons

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- 2.6 Actual hours worked: industry and occupation
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4.2 Labour underutilisation: age

4.3 Labour underutilisation: states and territories

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4.5 Persons not in the labour force: whether looking for work

EARNINGS/LABOUR COSTS

5.1 Wage price index

5.2 Average weekly earnings: trend series

5.3 Compensation of employees and related measures: trend series

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

6.1 Industrial disputes: working days lost

6.2 Industrial disputes: working days lost per 1,000 employees

JOB VACANCIES

7.1 Job vacancies

Data Cubes (Table 1 I-Note) - Data Cubes

6105.0 Table 1: Measures of labour underutilisation is updated on an annual basis in the April issue of 6105.0.

Data Cubes (Table 2 I-Note) - Data Cubes

6105.0 Table 2. Employment type 1992-2006 is updated on an annual basis in the July issue of 6105.0.